

Application No. 09/976,468
Supplemental Amendment dated February 28, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed September 22, 2004

REMARKS

This Supplemental Amendment is in further response to the Examiner's Final Office Action mailed on September 22, 2004 and Applicants' telephone interview with Examiner Patrick Lewis, Ph.D., on January 28, 2005.

Claims 1-44 and 55 have been canceled. Claims 59 and 70 are amended. New claims 71-86 are added. Claims 45-54 and 56-86 are now pending in the application.

Support for the amendment to claim 59 appear in the Specification, for example, at page 7, lines 29-30.

Support for the amendment to claim 70 appear in the Specification, for example, at page 38, lines 19-20.

Support for new claims 71-79 appears in the Specification, for example, at page 39, lines 4-10.

Support for new claims 71-79 and 84-86 appears in the Specification, for example, at page 39, lines 4-10.

Support for new claims 80-83 appears in the Specification, for example, at page 7, lines 5-7.

Thus, there is no new matter added to the amended and new claims. Allowance of these claims is therefore respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

In light of the remarks and arguments set forth above, Applicants earnestly believe that they are entitled to a letters patent, and respectfully solicit the Examiner to expedite prosecution of this patent application to issuance. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-2415 (Attorney Docket No. 12636-219).

Respectfully submitted,

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